

IN THE CLAIMS:

For the Examiner's convenience, all of the pending claims, whether amended or not, are set forth below.



Please amend Claims 1, 5, 7, 11, 13, 17, 19, and 23, and add new Claims 25-36 to read as follows. A marked-up version of Claims 1, 5, 7, 11, 13, 17, 19, and 23, showing the changes made thereto, is attached.

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1. (Amended) A communication apparatus, comprising:
first coding means for creating first coded data including audio signals coded by using a first coding method;
second coding means for creating second coded data including audio signals coded by using a second coding method that is different from said first coding method;
control means for switchably selecting at least one of said first coded data created by said first coding method and said second coded data created by said second coding method; and
sending means for sending the selected at least one of said first coded data and said second coded data to another communication device,
wherein said sending means sends said first coded data and said second coded data when said control means switches selection from said first coding method to said second coding method while said communication apparatus is in communication with the other communication device.

2. A communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said sending means sends said first coded data and said second coded data that are packetized in separate packets when said first coded data and said second coded data are sent.

3. A communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said sending means sends said first coded data and said second coded data that are packetized in a same packet when said first coded data and said second coded data are sent.

4. A communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said sending means sends said first coded data and said second coded data without connecting a new call.

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5. (Amended) A communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said control means does not select said second coded data until a predetermined time has passed since said second coding means starts creating said second coded data.

6. A communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said first coded data includes video signals coded by using said first coding method while said second coded data includes video signals coded by using said second coding method.

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7. (Amended) A method of operating a communication apparatus, comprising:

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 a first coding step for creating first coded data including audio signals coded by using a first coding method;

 a second coding step for creating second coded data including audio signals coded by using a second coding method that is different from said first coding method;

 a control step for switchably selecting at least one of said first coded data created by said first coding method and said second coded data created by said second coding method; and

 a sending step for sending the selected at least one of said first coded data and said second coded data to another communication device,
 wherein said sending step sends said first coded data and said second coded data when said control step switches selection from said first coding method to said second coding method while said communication apparatus is in communication with the other communication device.

8. A method according to claim 7, wherein said sending step sends said first coded data and said second coded data that are packetized in separate packets when said first coded data and said second coded data are sent.

9. A method according to claim 7, wherein said sending step sends said first coded data and said second coded data that are packetized in a same packet when said first coded data and said second coded data are sent.

10. A method according to claim 7, wherein said sending step sends said first coded data and said second coded data without connecting a new call.

11. (Amended) A method according to claim 7, wherein said control step does not select said second coded data until a predetermined time has passed since said second coding means starts creating said second coded data.

12. A method according to claim 7, wherein said first coded data includes video signals coded by using said first coding method while said second coded data includes video signals coded by using said second coding method.

13. (Amended) A communication apparatus, comprising:
receiving means for receiving at least one of first coded data including audio signals coded by using a first coding method and second data including audio signals coded by using a second coding method that is different from said first coding method;
first decoding means for decoding said first coding data;
second decoding means for decoding said second coded data;
control means for switchably selecting at least one of audio signals outputted by said first decoding means and audio signals outputted by said second decoding means; and

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output means for outputting the audio signals selected by said control means,

wherein said receiving means receives said first coded data and said second coded data when said control means switches selection from said first coding method to said second coding method while said communication apparatus is in communication with another communicating device.

14. A communication apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said receiving means receives said first coded data and said second coded data that are packetized in separate packets when said first coded data and said second coded data are received.

15. A communication apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said receiving means receives said first coded data and said second coded data that are packetized in a same packet when said first coded data and said second coded data are received.

16. A communication apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said receiving means receives said first coded data and said second coded data without connecting a new call.

17. (Amended) A communication apparatus according to claim 13,

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wherein said control means does not select audio signals outputted from said second decoding means until a predetermined time has passed since said second decoding means starts decoding said second coded data.

18. A communication apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said first coded data includes video signals coded by using said first coding method while said second coded data includes video signals coded by using said second coding method.

19. (Amended) A method of operating a communication apparatus, comprising:

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a receiving step for receiving at least one of first coded data including audio signals coded by using a first coding method and second data including audio signals coded by using a second coding method that is different from said first coding method;

a first decoding step for decoding said first coding data;
a second decoding step for decoding said second coded data;
a control step for switchably selecting at least one of said audio signals outputted in said first decoding step and said audio signals outputted in said second decoding step; and

an output step for outputting the audio signals selected in said control step,

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wherein said receiving step receives said first coded data and said second coded data when said control step switches selection from said first coding method to said second coding method while said communication apparatus is in communication with another communication device.

20. A method according to claim 19, wherein said receiving step receives said first coded data and said second coded data that are packetized in separate packets when said first coded data and said second coded data are received.

21. A method according to claim 19, wherein said receiving step receives said first coded data and said second coded data that are packetized in a same packet when said first coded data and said second coded data are received.

22. A method according to claim 19, wherein said receiving step receives said first coded data and said second coded data without connecting a new call.

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23. (Amended) A method according to claim 19, wherein said control step does not select audio signals outputted from said second decoding means until a predetermined time has passed since said second decoding means starts decoding said second coded data.

24. A method according to claim 19, wherein said first coded data includes video signals coded by using said first coding method while said second coded data includes video signals coded by using said second coding method.

--25. A communication apparatus, comprising:

a first coder, arranged for creating first coded data including audio signals coded by using a first coding method;

a second coder, arranged for creating second coded data including audio signals coded by using a second coding method that is different from said first coding method;

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a controller, arranged for switchably selecting at least one of said first coded data created by said first coding method and said second coded data created by said second coding method; and

a data sender, arranged for sending the selected at least one of said first coded data and said second coded data to another communication device,

wherein said data sender sends said first coded data and said second coded data when said controller switches selection from said first coding method to said second coding method while said communication apparatus is in communication with the other communication device.

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26. A communication apparatus according to claim 25, wherein said data sender sends said first coded data and said second coded data that are packetized in separate packets when said first coded data and said second coded data are sent.

27. A communication apparatus according to claim 25, wherein said data sender sends said first coded data and said second coded data that are packetized in a same packet when said first coded data and said second coded data are sent.

28. A communication apparatus according to claim 25, wherein said data sender sends said first coded data and said second coded data without connecting a new call.

29. A communication apparatus according to claim 25, wherein said controller does not select said second coded data until a predetermined time has passed since said second coder starts creating said second coded data.

30. A communication apparatus according to claim 25, wherein said first coded data includes video signals coded by using said first coding method while said second coded data includes video signals coded by using said second coding method.

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31. A communication apparatus, comprising:

a receiver, arranged for receiving at least one of first coded data including audio signals coded by using a first coding method and second data including audio signals coded by using a second coding method that is different from said first coding method;

a first decoder, arranged for decoding said first coding data;

a second decoder, arranged for decoding said second coded data;

a controller, arranged for switchably selecting at least one of audio signals outputted by said first decoder and audio signals outputted by said second decoder;

and

an outputter, arranged for outputting the audio signals selected by said controller,

wherein said receiver receives said first coded data and said second coded data when said controller switches selection from said first coding method to said second coding method while said communication apparatus is in communication with another communicating device.

32. A communication apparatus according to claim 31, wherein said receiver receives said first coded data and said second coded data that are packetized in separate packets when said first coded data and said second coded data are received.